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PEOPLE'S ASSEMBLY DISCUSSION OF 1952 ALBANIAN BUDGET

Speakers on budget problems at the third session of the Albanian People's Assembly included Vice-Premier Tuk Jakova; Deputy Mihal Prifti, chairman of the assembly; Shefqet Peci, Minister of Mines and deputy from Kukes; Adil Carcani, Minister of Industry and deputy from Durres; Rapo Dervishi, Minister of Construction and deputy from Vlore; Roza Hila and Todo Kavaia, deputies from Shkoder; Shefqet Musaraj, deputy from Lushnje; Bido Lumalasi, deputy from Korce; Qirjako Harito, deputy from Permet; Kahreman Ylli, Minister of Education and deputy from Berat; and Beshir Laci, deputy from Peshkopi.

The following reports were made:

Shefqet Peci, Minister of Mines

The budget for 1952 provides for a considerable investment in the mining sector, amounting to 756,373,000 leks or 171.13 percent of the 1951 investments.

An investment of 323,682,000 leks is to be made in machinery and equipment, including that for completion of a new refinery in Cerrik, such mining equipment as drills, tractors, and oil pipes, as well as compressors and machinery for the mechanization of mines.

These investments during 1952 will permit the following increases in production over 1951:

Petroleum combine	56 percent
Rubig copper mine	188 percent
Bulgize chromium mine	267 percent
Selenice bitumen mine	73 percent
Coal mines	111 percent

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To improve the workers' living conditions by the construction of homes and cultural institutions in the mining sector, 123,826,000 leks are to be invested in 1952. Canals and roads are to be constructed. Dining halls, clubs, cinemas, and kindergartens, 19,000 square meters of family housing, and 3,720 square meters of housing for single men are to be built for mine workers.

The 1952 plan provides for a considerable increase in the exploration of galleries by drilling, the opening of new oil wells, and geological surveys of the underground resources of Albania, at a cost of 295,456,000 leks. The volume of geological work will thus be 300 percent of 1951.

These geological surveys, in addition to filling in the gaps in Albania's known mineral reserves, will ensure fulfillment of the 1952 plan. They will form the basis not only for research on mineral reserves in existing oil wells, and in copper and bituminous coal mines, but also for further research on iron, aluminum manganese, and refractory clay.

As a result of investments already made or included in the 1952 plan, better labor organization, mechanization, and the introduction of Soviet methods (such as the Kafarov method), production under the 1952 plan is to be as follows (in percent of the 1951 plan): mines 139.19, petroleum industry 142.58, bitumen industry 129.41, copper industry 149.67, chromium industry 114.81, and lignite industry 147.34.

The budget for mining and other sectors is based on advanced technical and material knowledge. There is already a greater number of engineers and technicians -- Soviet, Albanian, and from the other People's Democracies -- than in 1951. The abundance of mines assures future mineral reserves. The majority of the machines and materials needed for this year's plan are already assured. The problem of a power source for Selenice was solved by the use of oil, and Rubia is expected to solve its power problem in the first 6 months of 1952. Furthermore, the increase in wages and in government aid may be considered a definite solution of the labor problem in mining.

Shortcomings occurred in the mining sector in 1951. The ministry was involved in the disorganization which existed in mining enterprises, especially in the petroleum combine. There was no systematic effort to fulfill the plan in mining enterprises. The directors of enterprises did not follow systematic courses in production, research, quality, and costs. Work discipline was weak; proper care was not exercised in the operation and maintenance of machinery. It was evident, from the work done in 1951, that irresponsible and harmful elements had not been rooted out of the mining sector. As a consequence of these shortcomings, several enterprises, such as the petroleum combine and the Rubig Copper Enterprise, did not fulfill their obligations under the 1951 budget. On the other hand, the Mborje-Drenove Mine worked continuously on schedule.

Adil Carcani, Minister of Industry

Revenues in 1951 reached 91.77 percent, expenditures 95 percent, and banking credit 197.85 percent of the budget. Investments reached 90.30 percent; costs were reduced 5 percent more than planned. The machine and electrical industries, as well as the tobacco and construction materials industries, showed very good results and added considerably to the budget revenue.

Some enterprises did well both in revenue and in expenses. They included the Enver Works (Enver Hoxha General Machine Works), directed by Artjo Spartak; the Gjinkaster State Leather Enterprise, directed by Telemak Mulin; the Korce State Leather Enterprise under Koco Nashin; the Fier Cotton Mill; the Vlore State Leather Enterprise under Thoma Lico; the Shkoder State Cement Enterprise under Vaso Marku; the Shkoder State Textile Enterprise; the Misto Mame State

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Woodworking Enterprise; the State Brewery; and a number of other enterprises. These enterprises also achieved good results in organizing their work and setting up socialist competitions.

The USSR made available large sums in 1951, to put into operation such works as the Stalin Textile Combine, the 8 Nentori Sugar Factory, and the Fier Cotton Mill. Other Soviet? funds were spent on operating the State Lumber Combine, the cotton mill in Rrogozhine, and the tobacco-curing plant in Shkoder. These works greatly increased the revenue of the 1952 budget under discussion.

There were various shortcomings in the fishery, soap, and macaroni industries. During 1951, organization and labor discipline were weak and exploitation poor. These defects, together with inefficient leadership by the board of directors of the enterprise, formerly headed by Vlash Kalavacin, and by the minister in charge of this sector, Cafur Cuci, resulted in the fulfillment of only 51 percent of the 1951 fisheries plan. The production plan for soap and macaroni was not fulfilled. The Durres Macaroni Factory utilized only 58.63 percent of its machinery. The output of this factory was only 68.87 percent of the plan. Furthermore, the soap enterprises in Rrogozhine, Shkoder, and Elbasan did not fulfill their plans. As a result of these failures, the supply of consumers' goods was not regular, and the planned revenues under the budget did not materialize. Although some industrial enterprises achieved satisfactory results in reducing costs, others raised costs through their failure to fulfill the plan.

Besides these deficiencies, insufficient attention was devoted to proper bookkeeping. All these deficiencies were the result of superficial and poorly prepared work by organizations of the Ministry of Industry which failed to take full advantage of party and government aid to implement their decisions and directives, and permitted harmful laxities. The responsibility fell chiefly on the Ministry of Industry. However, the directors of several industrial enterprises also bore a heavy responsibility to the people. These included Vlash Kalavaci, former director of fisheries; Hilmi Causholli, former director of the Rrogozhine Oil-Soap Enterprise; Muhamet Meqemeja, former director of the Elbasan Oil-Soap Enterprise; Izet Jaho, former director of the Tirana Sawmill; Ramazan Pllumbi, its present director; and Stavri Cifliku, director of the Rrogozhine State Rope Enterprise.

Revenues are to be 38.77 percent and expenditures 74.56 percent higher than in 1951. Expenditures in 1952 for few construction are to be 3.54 percent greater than in 1951. Such construction includes commencement of work on the Mat River Hydroelectric Power Station and on the woolen fabric and yarn enterprise at the Stalin Textile Combine, completion of the Rrogozhine cotton mill, the Shkoder tobacco-curing plant, the Vlore cement factory, and the tanning extract factory in Vlore, commencement of work on the Tirana Glass Factory, and a series of other objectives both in existing industries and new industries which were put into operation in 1951. Larger sums are to be allotted for the housing, recreation, and education of workers, for hygienic and sanitary measures to be put into effect in the industrial sector, and for the training of new specialized personnel and improvement of present personnel. The budget provides a fund of about 102,291,000 leks for the housing, recreation, and education of industrial workers, and 16 million leks for the training of specialized workers, about 16 times greater than the amount allotted in 1951.

At the end of 1952, production costs are to be 7 percent lower than in 1951. The quality of all materials and industrial goods must also be improved. Irregular spurts in work must be eliminated and labor discipline enforced. Better accounts must be kept, machinery better serviced, and output increased. Work in new industries and the collection of industrial crops must be better organized. Otherwise, the budget for 1952 cannot be fulfilled successfully.

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Rapo Dervishi, Minister of Construction

Constructions of national interest were 52 percent greater and of local interest 33 percent greater in 1951 than in 1950. The over-all production of the State Brickyards reached 137 percent of 1950.

The Stalin Textile Combine, the Lenin Hydroelectric Power Station, and the 8 Nentori Sugar Factory were completed and put in operation in 1951. Other important works included the Fier Cotton Mill, the Lanabregas-Izberishe water main, the Tirana water main, the Shemri-Kolgecaj road, reclamation work on the Kavaqe plain, and work on city housing and various housing centers. Progress was made on the Pequin-Kavaqe canal project, which will irrigate about 8,000 hectares of land, and the Maliq canal project.

Construction workers kept their pledge to fulfill the 1951 plan 29 days ahead of schedule. The planned reduction of construction costs in 1951 was exceeded 5.5 percent, thus saving the state 79.5 million leks. All construction enterprises of the State Industrial Planning Enterprise and of the State Brickyards exceeded the 1951 plan for cost reduction.

The Presidium of the People's Assembly, in evaluating the efforts of construction workers, decorated 2,709 persons. The Central Committee of the Albanian Workers' Party awarded the personnel of the Lenin Hydroelectric Power Station Project the Red Banner of the party. The Stakhanovite and leading worker movement in 1951 included 40 percent of all construction workers, or 70 percent above the 1950 figure. Soviet methods, one of the chief factors contributing to these results, had spread so rapidly that they were being used in 25 percent of all construction work, while 87 percent of all construction workers were working under the norm system. In all, 2,611 workers were trained. The experience gained through the use of about 15,000 tons of modern machinery and the personnel trained in this sector will form a great reserve for future work.

The local construction industries also advanced, but not at the necessary pace. Of the seven local construction enterprises in important centers, six exceeded the plan, while all seven reduced costs 7.20 percent. Local constructions, such as the Dropull water main, which furnishes drinking water to about 10,000 inhabitants of villages without water supplies, and the Qaf-Dardh-Samisht and the Surrej-Mames irrigation canals, are proof of the capacity of the local sector. Local enterprises should be reinforced so that they can also execute national projects, thus permitting the national enterprises to concentrate on great industrial objectives, such as transportation and reclamation, and shorten the time required for construction. Thanks to Soviet aid the amount of construction work done in 1951 was 20 percent greater than in 1950, while revenues were 23 percent greater.

The Ministry of Construction must not rest on the success of the Lenin Hydroelectric Power Station. It must not hide the failures of construction crews on the Lumbardh-Tuc road and on housing in Tirana while reporting overfulfillment of the plan for building the Pequin-Kavaqe canal and similar successes. Analysis of performance in each sector showed great deficiencies. Two out of six enterprises, for example, did not fulfill the 1951 plan. Although these two enterprises, Muhamer Gjolllesha and Perlat Rexhepi, had less help from the ministry than other enterprises, the directors of these two enterprises, Ajet Rusi and Foti Papanastasi, were in the last analysis responsible for the failure to carry out the plan.

The 1952 plan provides for 19 percent more construction than in 1951. Work was scheduled to begin in 1951 on the great hydroelectric power station on the Mat River. Work has already begun on the new refinery at Cerrik and

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the cement factory at Vlore. The Peqin-Kavaje irrigation canal, 43 kilometers long, is to be opened on 1 June 1952. On 31 March, the Elbasan Lumber Combine, the Vlore Rice Factory, and the Tirana Motion Picture Studio are to open. On 1 July, a second cotton mill is to be completed in Rrogozhine.

The 1952 plan provides for 600 apartments in Tirana and hundreds of others in other urban, industrial, and mining areas. Also planned are the completion of the Vlore-Memallaj railroad, the asphalt surfacing of 50 kilometers of national roads, the construction of the last dam of the Myzege irrigation canal, which will add 2,500 hectares to the 7,000 hectares of land now under irrigation, and the commencement of work on the important Levan-Fier canal. During 1952, a tannin extract factory at Vlore, a lumber-seasoning plant at Fushe-Arrez, and other important economic and cultural projects are planned.

Deputy Roza Hila

Industrial workers fulfilled the January 1952 plan 123 percent. Use of the Levchenko-Mukhanov method, now practiced by 40 workers in one industrial enterprise, reduced costs and helped high-quality goods. By this method each outstanding worker in this enterprise saved about 1,400 leks in a 2-week period. This method also lowered the percentage of waste. Full use of this method throughout the year would enable workers to save the enterprise about one million leks, with which a nursery for the workers' children could be built.

Deputy Bido Lumalasi

Every session of the People's Assembly has brought new improvements to Albania. For example, the second session, which met in June 1951, approved the 1951 budget which gave Albania the Stalin Textile Combine, the Lenin Hydroelectric Power Station, and the 8 Nentori Sugar Factory in Maliq.

In the agricultural sector in 1950, the Lumalas cooperatives obtained 15 quintals of grain per hectare. Under the former regime, one member of the present cooperative was a servant with three children, but now, as a member of a cooperative, he receives the profits from his own labor. In 1951, he earned 75 quintals of grain, 400 kilograms of sugar, and 50,000 leks. From sugar alone he obtained 60,000 leks [sic] and other income. This is not an isolated case. All members of Albanian agricultural cooperatives are making similar profits.

Deputy Beshir Laci

In 1951, Peshkopi Rreth achieved a series of successes. Revenues in 1951 were 158 percent and expenditures 148 percent of 1950. The approved 1951 budget project was fulfilled 110 percent for revenues but only 93.52 percent for expenditures. The latter was due to the failure to carry out investments, because of the lack of proper aid from the Ministry of Construction.

During 1951, Peshkopi Rreth built two 7-year schools and four elementary schools. Six schools were expanded and 22 repaired. In 1952, a 7-year boarding school with a capacity of 50 students is planned in Shupenze. A number of scholarships have been set up. These permit 66 students to be sent to the pedagogical school in Durres. The rreth proposed that a boarding school be opened for 40 girls and that efforts be made to facilitate attendance of girls at 7-year schools and high schools. A house of culture and several people's reading rooms were opened. In 1951, Peshkopi Rreth began work on ten canals. At Katund-Ri a cut was being made through a hill to divert the Drin River to Slllove-Shumbat, Dardhe-Reci Lugjejeve, Selishte, Zall-Dardhe, and other places, thereby providing water over a distance of about 117 kilometers and making available 2,100 hectares of land. During 1951, a total of 147,000 cubic meters of ground were excavated. This work was estimated at 7,360,000 leks, but work valued at

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6,637,000 leks was supplied by voluntary labor. Agrarian credit amounting to 2,560,000 leks was given to Peshkopi villagers. In 1952, such credits are to exceed 3,400,000 leks. More than 11 million leks have been awarded to mothers of many children.

In the forestry sector the plan for the fourth year of the Five-Year Plan was fulfilled, and work on the 1955 plan has begun, thereby saving the state 2,327,882 leks. The 1951 harvest plan was also fulfilled.

On the tenth anniversary of the party, Peshkopi Rreth was acclaimed the winner in the socialist competitions, and is to receive banners for spring planting, fall planting, and afforestation on 6 March. The Bulqize mines also achieved a number of successes.

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